

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/938,303	NAGAOKA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	JIMMY H. NGUYEN	2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the RCE papers filed 1/16/2008 and the supplemental amendment filed 1/31/2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-72.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/188,772.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>attached hereto</u>. 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |
|---|--|

/Jimmy H Nguyen/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2629

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. This Office Action is made in response to applicant's supplemental amendment filed on 01/31/2008. Claims 1-72 are currently pending in the application. An action follows below:
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Matthew H. Polson on February 15, 2008.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 18:

Replace "**a number**" in line 6 with -- numbers --;

Replace "**each gray level**" in line 6 with -- said plurality of subframes --;

Replace "**each gray level**" in line 7 with -- said plurality of subframes --;

Replace "**each gray level**" in line 8 with -- the specific weight values of said plurality of subframes --;

Replace "**each gray level**" in line 9 with -- said plurality of subframes --; and

Replace "**each gray level.**" in line 10 with -- the specific weight values of said plurality of subframes. --;

Claim 27:

Replace “**a number**” in line 9 with -- numbers --;

Replace “**each gray level**” in lines 9-10 with -- said plurality of subframes --;

Replace “**each gray level**” in line 10 with -- said plurality of subframes --;

Replace “**each gray level,**” in line 11 with -- the specific weight values of said plurality of subframes --;

Replace “**each gray level**” in line 12 with -- said plurality of subframes --; and

Replace “**each gray level.**” in line 13 with -- the specific weight values of said plurality of subframes. --;

Claim 63:

Replace “**a number**” in line 11 with -- numbers --;

Replace “**each gray level**” in line 11 with -- said plurality of subframes --;

Replace “**each gray level**” in line 12 with -- said plurality of subframes --;

Replace “**each gray level**” (first occurrence) in line 13 with -- the specific weight values of said plurality of subframes --;

Replace “**each gray level**” (second occurrence) in line 13 with -- said plurality of subframes --; and

Replace “**each gray level,**” in line 14 with -- the specific weight values of said plurality of subframes. --.

Claim 72:

Replace “a number” in line 9 with -- numbers --;

Replace “each gray level” in line 9 with -- said plurality of subframes --;

Replace “each gray level” in line 10 with -- said plurality of subframes --;

Replace “each gray level” (first occurrence) in line 11 with -- the specific weight values of said plurality of subframes --;

Replace “each gray level,” (second occurrence) in line 11 with -- said plurality of subframes --; and

Replace “each gray level,” in line 12 with -- the specific weight values of said plurality of subframes, --.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the claimed invention is directed to a plasma display device and a method and an apparatus for controlling a gray scale of the plasma display device to enhance the display quality of the plasma display device. Independent claims 1, 3, 18, 27, 46, 48, 63 and 72 identify the uniquely distinct features, “calculating numbers of sustain emissions of said plurality of subframes so as to make a ratio of brightnesses of said plurality of subframes substantially equal a ratio of the specific weight values of said plurality of subframes and a ratio of numbers of sustain emissions of said plurality of subframes does not equal the ratio of the specific weight values of said plurality of subframes” presently recited in lines 5-9 of claim 1, lines 8-12 of claim 3, lines 10-14 of claim 46, and lines 8-12 of claim 48 and in claims 18, 27, 63 and 72 as amended above. Independent claims 28 and

37 identify the uniquely distinct features, “setting a number of sustain emissions, individually for and corresponding to the predetermined brightness of each individual subframe, numbers of sustain emissions of different subframes bearing a non-linear relationship to the different, predetermined brightnesses of the respective, different subframes” presently recited in lines 5-8 of claim 28 and lines 4-7 of claim 37. The closest prior arts, Applicant's Admitted Prior Art and Shinoda (US 5,541,618) both discussed in the Office Action dated 08/16/2007, either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious. Further, see Applicant's arguments in the amendment filed 1/16/2008.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JIMMY H. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-7675. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached at 571-272-7681. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Jimmy H Nguyen/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2629